

TRUE OPPORTUNITIES.

Time Enough for the Longest Duty. But None for the Shortest Sin.

It is truly humiliating to see how enormous a proportion of the world's activity is spent upon the mere repair of evils occasioned by human unfaithfulness. When the physician has reckoned all the diseases and sufferings he witnesses which involve any element of guilt; when the lawyer has counted the suits brought to him by fraud, injustice and cupidity; when the tradesman has told how much of the cost he incurs in looking up the debts which else would not be paid, or watching the servants who can not be trusted out of sight; when the labor has been weighed, which is occasioned wholly by broken promises, and disappointed expectations, and interrupted contracts, how much, think you, would remain to constitute the real productive and progressive work of mankind, compensative of no artificial evil, but fulfilling the appointed Providential good? If every posture of things were seized by the faithful conscience at the right moment, and no crises were lost, who will venture to say what sorrows would be saved, what complications would be unraveled, or even what interval would be left between the Heaven we hope for and the earth we live in?

Nor must we forget that while objects around us perpetually change, we ourselves do not stand still. We also are subjects of transient and evanescent states, bringing with them their several obligations, and carrying away their fruits of tranquillity or of reproach. Each present conviction, each secret suggestion of duty, constitutes a distinct and separate call of God, which can never be slighted without the certainty of its total departure or its fainter return. The spontaneous movement of the heart can then only be replaced by the strivings of a heavy and reluctant will, with twice the work, and only half the strength. The different feeling of to-morrow is destined to a different work, and can not be diverted to accomplish the task which was due to-day. And to the power which is not wisely spent must be wildly wasted. Our true opportunities come but once; they are sufficient, but not redundant; and we have time enough for the longest duty, but not for the shortest sin.—James Martineau.

UNCONSCIOUS INFLUENCE.

The Time When the Real Inner Light Shows Itself.

One of the greatest tributes one person can pay another is to say that he led him to do this or that good deed by his unconscious influence. Most anyone can appear good and earnest and sympathetic when he tries. But it is quite another thing to show that goodness, earnestness and sympathy without trying to have these beneficent influences flow from one's life because the heart overflows with them. The people who are good only when they make a special effort to be so are likely to be caught off their guard. It may be doubted if such people are really good at all, but put on their goodness as they do their coats, according to the character of the people with whom they associate or the thing to be gained.

David Livingstone was one whose character ever shone, even though no human hearts were to be cheered except the dark-faced Africans. Stanley says that during the four months he was with him in the dark continent, there was such a constant stream of good influences flowing from the great missionary's personality that though he went to Africa "as prejudiced as

the biggest atheist in London," he returned a Christian man. "Little by little," says Stanley, "his sympathy for others became contagious; my sympathy was aroused; seeing his piety, his gentleness, his zeal, his earnestness, and how he went quietly about his business, I was converted by him, although he had not tried to do it.

Christ truly in the heart, Christ animating all one's thoughts, Christ the motive power of all one's acts, Christ the aim and purpose of one's life—this means Christ always and everywhere.

Just as good breeding makes a man a gentleman under all circumstances, just as careful nature gives the rose the beautiful tint it desired to have, just so, except much more surely, the human character, molded by the Divine hand, shows the effects of its training, and, without exercise of the will, sheds its influence all around.—Young Men's Era.

NUGGETS OF GOLD.

Some Bright Bits of Truth Taken from the Ram's Horn.

Truth is the strength of God.

It never helps sin any to wash its face.

All offers of salvation are in the present tense.

Bad men hate the Bible as rogues do the police.

Sin is a great detective—it always "spots" its man.

No man seeks his best who does not seek God first.

If we obey Christ it is proof that we know Him.

To say yes to any kind of a sin is to say no to Christ.

It is a long step toward God to forsake bad company.

Praying at people is never prompted by the Holy Spirit.

The labor of unbelief is to make a stone look like bread.

We all hate self when we see it crop out in somebody else.

Too many divisions in sermons subtract from congregations.

The only freedom is to be in full accord with God's purpose.

The sun is always shining to the man who walks by faith.



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Train 11 Gallion Accom., daily	6 03 p m
Train 3 Pacific Express, daily	7 52 p m
Train 37 Accom. Fr't except Sunday	12 50 p m

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NOTICE.

The Brethren's meeting house at Sidney, Ind., will be dedicated on the last Sunday of July, 29th. Commencing at 11 o'clock. All are invited from the adjoining congregations, and all others who feel an interest in the cause of the Master. Ministers are especially invited to be present.

DANIEL MILLER.

July 2nd, 1894

COMMUNION NOTICES.

DEAR BROTHER:—Please say through our paper that the Brethren at Middle Branch, Ohio, will hold their communion July 22nd. A cordial invitation is extended to all of like faith.

J. L. KIMMEL, Pastor.

A communion service will be held on the evening of July 28th, 1894, in the Grove house, of the George's Creek congregation. All of like faith and practice are invited to attend.

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